



D O C T O R S
H O S P I T A L

July 18, 1995

David Werdegar, M.D., M.P.H.
Director
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Health Policy and Planning Division
1600 9th Street, Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Doctor Werdegar:

We are pleased to observe that the data gathered by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHDPD) is consistent with our perception that patients receive quality care at Doctors Hospital of Pinole. An analysis of all cases with variances has been done with the goal of achieving "significantly better than expected" in all categories".

Projects such as this will ultimately contribute to improving healthcare outcomes, however, the processes must be refined before the information can be of true value to the public or the payors. Medical coders do not have definitions in place to accurately and consistently measure complications. Guidelines to clearly define risk factors, preexisting conditions and complications would greatly enhance the quality of this information.

We appreciate the scope of this endeavor and thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on your findings.

Sincerely,

Gary Sloan
Chief Executive Officer

GS:rb/xdwerdegar.gs